

CLAIMS

1. A cutting tool adjustment system comprising a body for adjustably holding a cutting tool, adjustment means mechanically releasably engageable with the body for positionally adjusting a cutting edge of the cutting tool, and means electronically releasably engageable with the body and including power supply means for at least powering means providing information as to adjustment made, in use, to said cutting edge position by said adjustment means.
2. A system as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the means providing information as to the adjustment made to the cutting tool edge position is a visual display.
3. A system as claimed in Claim 2, wherein the visual display is an electronic display.
4. A system as claimed in Claim 3 wherein the visual display is part of the means electronically releasably engageable with the body.
5. A system as claimed in Claim 4, wherein the visual display shows the adjustment as the adjustment means is operated.
6. A system as claimed in Claim 4, wherein the visual display shows a pre-programmed amount of adjustment.

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7. A system as claimed in Claim 6, wherein the adjustment means is motor driven and the pre-programmed amount of adjustment is effected automatically upon engagement of the electronically engageable means with the body.

8. A system as claimed in Claim 6, wherein the adjustment means is manually operated and at least one LED turns on or off to indicate when said pre-programmed amount of adjustment has been effected.

9. A system as claimed in any one of Claims 2 to 8, wherein the visual display is an LCD.

10. A system as claimed in Claim 1, wherein the means providing information as to the adjustment made to the cutting edge position is a simulated voice output.

11. A system as claimed in Claim 2 or Claim 3, wherein the display is provided with a scale, adjustment of the cutting edge position being shown by way of an increasing or decreasing bar.

12. A system as claimed in Claim 2 or Claim 3, wherein the visual display is part of a display module, spaced from the adjustment means and the means engageable with the body, and incorporating a receiver for a signal transmitted from the body or the means engageable therewith.

13. A system as claimed in Claim 11 or Claim 12, wherein the visual display is an LCD screen.

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14. A system as claimed in Claim 12 or Claim 13, wherein the display module is a hand-held, battery-powered device.

15. A system as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 14, wherein the adjustment means is fitted to the means electronically engageable with the body to define an adjuster tool.

16. A system as claimed in Claim 15, wherein when the adjuster tool is engaged with the body, operation of said adjustment means turns an adjusting screw controlling the position of the cutting edge.

17. A system as claimed in Claim 15 or Claim 16, wherein when the adjuster tool is engaged with the body, there is at least one electrical contact therebetween.

18. A system as claimed in Claim 17, wherein the adjuster tool includes power supply means which by way of said at least one electrical contact supplies power to the body.

19. A system as claimed in Claim 18, wherein the power supply is provided by a battery.

20. A system as claimed in Claim 19, wherein said battery is rechargeable.

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21. A system as claimed in any one of Claims 18 to 20, wherein the body contains electronic circuitry which generates a signal voltage dependent upon the amount of adjustment of the cutting tool edge.
22. A system as claimed in Claim 21, wherein the relationship between the amount of adjustment of the cutting tool edge and the signal voltage generated is non-linear.
23. A system as claimed in Claim 21 or Claim 22, wherein said electronic circuitry regulates and applies an output from an electronic position sensor monitoring the position of said cutting tool edge.
24. A system as claimed in any one of Claims 21 to 23, wherein the power from the adjuster tool is passed via one electrical input contact to the electronic circuitry on the body, whilst said output signal voltage is made available at a second electrical contact between the body and the adjuster tool.
25. A system as claimed in Claim 24, wherein the body acts as a common ground/earth connection.
26. A system as claimed in any one of Claims 21 to 25, wherein the signal voltage is processed by an electronic circuit located in the adjuster tool.
27. A system as claimed in Claim 26, wherein the electronic circuit is in a handle of the adjustment means.

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28. A system as claimed in Claim 7, wherein the adjustment means is fitted to the means electronically engageable with the body to define an adjuster tool which has a rocker switch for 'up/down' adjustment of the cutting tool edge.

29. A system as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 6, wherein the adjustment means is separate from the means electronically engageable with the body and is not fitted thereto, in use.

30. A system as claimed in Claim 29, wherein the means electronically engageable with the body contains power supply means and electrical contact means for engagement with electrical contact means of the body, as well as visual display means.

31. A system as claimed in Claim 30, wherein the body has said electrical contact means spaced from internal adjustment screw means for receiving an interengaging adjusting part of the adjustment means.

32. A system as claimed in any one of the preceding claims, in which the body is a cartridge.

33. A system as claimed in any one of Claims 1 to 28, wherein the body is a bush unit.

34. A system as claimed in Claim 29, wherein the cartridge is for a boring bar.

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35. A system as claimed in Claim 29, wherein the cartridge is for a reaming tool.